

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-9 and 19-20 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 2 and 19 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

Claims 1-2 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,481,537 to Crisler et al. (hereafter "**Crisler et al.**") in view of U.S. Patent 5,894,472 to de Seze (hereafter "**de Seze**").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

**Crisler et al.** discloses a transmission signaling technique for a reservation request. When data is ready for transmission, a quality measurement of a communication resource is determined (303). A preferred signaling technique is determined from a plurality of signaling techniques (305). A reservation request for allocation of the communication resource is transmitted from the terminal apparatus to the host, including in the reservation request the preferred signaling technique (307). A reservation grant is transmitted from the host to the terminal apparatus according to the preferred signaling technique (309).

The "time slot" of **Crisler et al.** represents a time stamp which is used for sending/receiving a packet in a usual radio communication process. The time stamp (time information) incorporated into an electronic message is utilized for setting priorities among request messages and for packet administration.

On the contrary, the timer value of the present invention represents a time when a terminal apparatus has come into a communication possible state, and is used as an ID of the

terminal apparatus. This feature of the present invention is not disclosed or taught in the cited references.

As the Examiner has noted, Crisler et al. fails to specifically disclose a step of forwarding a transmission request from the host to the terminal apparatus, but has cited de Seze for teaching that it is well-known in the art that communication starts with the base station indicating to all of the associated mobile stations whether or not the shared traffic channel in the up direction is free. If it is free, then a mobile station, which wishes to transmit data to the base station, sends an access request over the shared traffic channel in the up direction.

Thus, the Examiner interprets the communication from the base station to the mobile station regarding the availability of the shared traffic channel as corresponding to the transmission request from the base station to the terminal apparatus recited in claim 1.

Applicants respectfully disagree. A communication from the base to all of the terminals that a channel is free is not a specific transmission request to a specific terminal, which is for the purpose of establishing an ID for the terminal apparatus according to a timer value, as disclosed on page 3, lines 7-23 of the specification of the instant application. Thus, the combination of the teachings of Crisler et al. and de Seze fails to teach, mention or suggest “forwarding a transmission request from the host apparatus to the terminal apparatus,” as recited in claim 1 of the instant application.

Claims 1, 2 and 19 have been amended to clarify the definition of the timer value. Thus, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has allowed claim 20 and has indicated that claims 3-9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants respectfully defer this action until a final Office Action, if any, is received.


In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-9 and 19-20, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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